





**Glynwood Community
Primary School**

**Growing Together
at Glynwood**

Glynwood Gardens
Gateshead
Tyne & Wear
NE9 5SY
Headteacher: Mrs Vicky Nellis
Telephone: 0191 433 4117
Email: glynwoodcommunityprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk
Website: glynwoodprimary.org

Friday 26th September 2025

September 2025

Tuesday 30th September- Individual School Photographs

October 2025

Wednesday 8th October - Parent/ Carer consultations

Thursday 2nd October - Poetry Day

Friday 10th October - Hello Yellow Day (Mental Health Awareness) - non-uniform and children can wear a yellow item of clothing.

Monday 13th October - Thursday 16th October - Harvest Festival food collection

Friday 17th October - Year Four Harvest Festival Assembly at 2:45pm - families of Year Four children to attend.

Friday 24th October - Last Day of the half term.

November 2025

Monday 3rd November - Children return to school after half term.

Monday 10th November - Friday 14th November - Anti-bullying week

Monday 10th November - Odd Socks Day - children to wear odd socks to school

Monday 10th - 12th November - Year Six residential trip to Robinwood

Tuesday 11th November - Wreath Laying at Low Fell War Memorial

Friday 14th November - Children in Need Day - Non-uniform for a donation towards CIN.

December 2025 (Further dates to follow)

Thursday 11th December - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Friday 19th December - Last Day of term

January 2026

Monday 5th January - Pupils return to school

Monday 5th January - Pantomime in school for pupils

Friday 23rd January - French Day - pupils to wear red, white and blue

Thursday 29th January - 9am Phonics and Phonics screening workshop for Year One parents

February 2026

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10th February - 3:15 - 4:15pm - Y1 and Y2 Valentine Disco (children who attend can wear disco clothes for the day)

Wednesday 11th February - 3:15 - 4:15pm - Y3 and Y4 Valentine Disco (children who attend can wear disco clothes for the day)

Thursday 12th February - 3:30 - 4:30 - Y5 and Y6 Valentine Disco (children who attend can wear disco clothes for the day)

Friday 13th February - Staff Training Day - school closed to pupils

Friday 20th February - Last day of school for pupils

March 2026

Monday 2nd March - Pupils return to school

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Friday 20th March - Red Nose Day - non-uniform day for a charitable donation

Friday 27th March - Faith Day - Parents/ Carers into class to look at children's RE work from 2:45pm

April 2026
Thursday 2 nd April - Last Day of term for pupils
Monday 20 th April - Pupils return to school
May 2026
Monday 4 th May - Bank Holiday - School closed
Monday 11 th May - Thursday 14 th May Year Six SATs week
Friday 22 nd May - Last Day of the half term
June 2026
Monday 1 st June - pupils return to school
Monday 1 st June - Friday 5 th June - Year Four multiplication check
Monday 8 th June - Friday 12 th June - Phonics screening
Friday 12 th June - Rainbow Day - Diversity Celebration - Children to wear non-school uniform
Monday 15 th June - Thursday 25 th June - Glynwood Art, Craft and Music Festival
Wednesday 24 th June and Thursday 25 th June - Glynwood Art festival exhibition opens
Thursday 25 th June - 3:30pm - 4:30pm - Summer Fair
Friday 26 th June - School Closed to pupils
July 2026
Friday 10 th July - Reports out to pupils
Friday 17 th July - 9:15am - Year Six Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 th July - Last Day of academic year 2025-26
September 2026
Tuesday 1 st September - Teacher Training Day - school closed to pupils
Wednesday 2 nd September - pupils return to school for new academic year.





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Dear Families,

I hope that this Newsletter finds you all well. Unfortunately, I have not been in school this week, but I have been fully updated by the team on what has been happening, and I am pleased to share some highlights and important notices with you.

Year Four JE - Charlie Rogers Art Exhibition

Year Four JE visited the Charlie Rogers exhibition at the library this week. Staff reported that the children were exceptionally well behaved and showed great enthusiasm and curiosity about the art works on display. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to engage with creativity in our community. Well done Year Four!

Football

The Year 5 and 6 football team played well on Thursday and came 3rd in their Autumn cup tournament and can all be commended for their behaviour during the tournament.

Parking Reminder

We are continuing to experience issues with parking around Southend Road and Glynwood Gardens. This is a serious concern as residents are sharing that they cannot get out of driveways to work and that access is impossible in an emergency. Glynwood staff do not have the capacity to police or monitor the manner in which our families park, so I am pleading for your cooperation in this ongoing issue that continues to create tension between school and our neighbours.

School Jewellery Reminder

Children should not be wearing earrings for school. This is an important health and safety rule that helps to keep everyone safe during playtimes and PE lessons.

Bikes and Scooters

Please remember that bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school site, children should dismount when entering and pushed until stored in the appropriate area.

Please see below for term-time leave of absence reminders.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to being back in school on Monday.

With my best wishes for a great weekend.

Vicky Nellis

Head Teacher

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Child Protection and Safeguarding are always an absolute priority in school. Our designated safeguarding leads and deputies are: Vicky Nellis (Head Teacher), Simon Otterson (Deputy Head), Sarah Brunskill (Assistant Head), Esther Commons (SENDco), Jude Etherington (Curriculum leader), Vic Birkbeck (Family Support Worker), Helen Moss (Afterschool club lead). Please talk to any of us about any concerns that you may have. Posters displaying photos of the designated safeguarding leads are displayed around school.

If you have concerns about a child in your community, you have a number of options:

- 1) You can call 101 and ask for some welfare advice. This can be done anonymously.
- 2) You can visit the NSPCC website on: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/> or you can call the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000, You can report concerns here anonymously too.



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Dear Families,

It is really important that we work together to improve attendance for all of our children. One area which can be contentious is term-time holiday requests. We need families to be open and transparent regarding holidays (for safeguarding reasons and so children aren't asked to lie), but the statutory and legal guidance around this is much stricter and is a national priority for the government.

I know that the vast majority of families do not take term-time holidays, so I apologise for the blanket communication, but it is vital that families understand the systems and the legal guidance.

Leave of absence forms should continue to be completed for **ALL** requests. If you feel that you have exceptional circumstances around a term time leave of absence request for your child (as in there are exceptional reasons why the absence has to take place on a very specific date in term time for an exceptional reason (as outlined below)) then this needs to be outlined in writing. I will then consider the information provided to me and the decision will be made whether to authorise the absence, but again I must reinforce, I can now only authorise term-time leave of absence requests in the most exceptional circumstances and these will be very rare.

Holidays will not be authorised.

I am more than happy to discuss any aspect of your child's learning or well-being and have an open-door policy for this, however **term-time leave of absence procedures are very clear and I am not willing to discuss decisions made with families.** I will also not discuss other children's absences for confidentiality and GDPR reasons. When guidance is very clear, as it is now, questioning decisions made puts everyone in a difficult position and can put a strain on relationships between school and families, which we want to avoid at all costs. Aggressive communication towards staff will also not be accepted for any reason, including communication around term-time leave of absence requests.

Please see the guidance below which is taken from our Attendance Policy which meets the legal and statutory requirements set out by the Department for Education. This is the same as the communication sent out to parents in previous newsletters.

Best wishes

Vicky Nellis

Head Teacher

4.1 Approval for term-time absence

The headteacher will only grant a leave of absence to a pupil during term time if they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances'. A leave of absence is granted at the headteacher's discretion, including the length of time the pupil is authorised to be absent.

We define 'exceptional circumstances' as **where there are unavoidable reasons for the leave of absence not falling during school holiday time. For example, visiting a very sick relative in a different area or country, an immediate family member's wedding or an immediate family member's funeral. Exceptional Circumstances also apply if a child is involved in sporting or creative events, but school do need evidence of these dates.**

Exceptional circumstances are truly exceptional and this will be applied consistently across all requests.

The school considers each application for term-time absence individually, taking into account the specific facts, circumstances and relevant context behind the request.

Any request should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated and, where possible, at least 3 weeks before the absence, and in accordance with any leave of absence request form, accessible via the school office or the school website. The headteacher may require evidence to support any request for a leave of absence.

4.3 Legal sanctions

The local authority can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age.

Warning letters are no longer issued.

If issued a fine, or penalty notice, each parent must pay £80 within 21 days or £160 within 28 days. The payment must be made directly to the local authority.

Penalty notices can be issued by a local authority officer or the police.

The decision on whether or not to issue a penalty notice may take into account:

- The number of unauthorised absences occurring within a rolling academic year
- One-off instances of irregular attendance, such as holidays taken in term time without permission
- Where an excluded pupil is found in a public place during school hours without a justifiable reason

If the payment has not been made after 28 days, the local authority can decide whether to prosecute or withdraw the notice.

The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

- A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.
- A third penalty notice **cannot be issued** to the same parent in respect of the same child **within 3 years of the date of issue** of the first. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action should be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution, but may include other tools such as one of the other attendance legal interventions.



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